FAX

To: Examiner Peter Choi
US Patent Office
Fax Phone Number: (571) 273-8300

Art Unit: 3623

Application Control Number 10/036,200

Date: July 23, 2006

From Norman Ken Ouchi

Examiner Choi

Attached is a discussion of Du et al, US Patent 5,823,239 with respect to the obviousness of the present invention and the points in the Advisory Action mailed 7/11/06.

May we schedule a phone call after you have read the discussion? If a phone call is possible, please call me at 408-757-5862 so we may schedule a time to fit your calendar.

Eight pages plus this cover sheet

Thank you,

Norman Ken Ouchi 7/23/06
Norman Ken Ouchi

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Response to USPTO Advisory Action Mailed 7/11/06

Examiner: Peter Choi

Art Unit: 3623

Title: Object Based Workflow Route

Application Number: 10/036,200

Confirmation Number 2842

Inventor: Norman Ken Ouchi

Date: July 22, 2006
        23

Status: This action is FINAL

Disposition of Claims: Claims 21-39 are Rejected and does not place the application in condition for allowance.

Discussion

The inventor appreciates the through research and analysis by the examiner to aid the inventor. The points made by the examiner have been valuable in writing the claims.

To the points in the Advisory Action of 7/11/06:

1) For Claim 21 (and claims 29 and 32), there are two distinct routes, a **first object route** and a **first route** shown in **bold italics** to illustrate in the original claim 21.

21. A method for coordinating a first level route directed workflow and a second level route directed workflow using an object step, the method comprising:

defining a first object step encapsulating a first route segment, a sequence of steps to be connected to other route segments;

defining a first level workflow means, including an Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system, directed by an object route, a sequence of object steps;

defining a second level workflow means, including a shopfloor system, directed by a route, a sequence of steps;

defining a *first object route*, a sequence of object steps, including the first object step;

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